



Child Sexual Exploitation Strategic Group Quality Assurance Framework

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1. Introduction

“Reducing the risk of sexual exploitation requires a co-ordinated, multi-agency approach to raise awareness amongst children and young people, parents and the wider public, help children and young people develop resilience and make safe choices, ensure that practitioners and agencies have the knowledge and skills to identify exploitation and respond appropriately, disrupt and prevent the activities of perpetrators and reduce tolerance of exploitative behaviour” (Scottish Government, 2016).

Scotland’s National Action Plan has developed the following areas to focus on for tackling child sexual exploitation:

- ✚ Prevention of abuse and early intervention (with specific measures for dealing with particularly vulnerable children)
- ✚ Intervention and recovery that supports children and young people affected by CSE
- ✚ Disruption and prosecution of offenders through legislation

Definition of child sexual exploitation is as follows:

Child sexual exploitation is a form of child sexual abuse in which a person(s), of any age takes advantage of a power imbalance to force or entice a child into engaging in sexual activity in return for something received by the child and/or those perpetrating or facilitating the abuse.¹ As with other forms of child sexual abuse, the presence of perceived consent does not undermine the abusive nature of the act (Scottish Government, 2016).

2. Position Statement: Nurturing Inverclyde’s approach to Child Sexual Exploitation

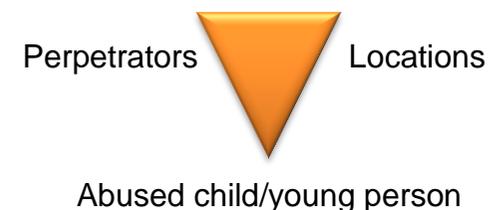
Nurturing Inverclyde has developed a co-ordinated approach to tackling child sexual exploitation and places this in the context of sexual abuse.

The strategic and operational planning in relation to child sexual exploitation is overseen by the multi-agency Child Sexual Exploitation Strategic Group. The work of the Strategic Group reports to the Inverclyde Child Protection Committee and to Inverclyde’s Chief Officers group.

Inverclyde's intervention is also set within the context of the national GIRFEC approach. A key theme is the importance of services focusing on early intervention and prevention activity. This means, working together effectively at the earliest stages to help children, young people and families.

Reference should also be made to: National Guidance for Child Protection in Scotland (2014) and Guidance on Child Sexual Exploitation- A Practitioner's Resource Pack (Barnardo's, 2014).

The Strategic Group partners have adopted Barnardo's triangle of abuse intervention model:



Nurturing Inverclyde is based on the equality outcomes that every child, citizen and community:

- ✚ is protected from discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- ✚ has equality of opportunity in everything that they do
- ✚ has good relationships and are respectful and responsible of those who share protected characteristics (age; sex; disability; gender reassignment; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion and belief; and sexual orientation) and those who do not.

3. The Quality Assurance Framework

This framework is based on the CSE self-evaluation for Child Protection Committees (CPC) that was collated in June 2016. It promotes an ethos of continuous improvement that enables us **to understand of how prevalent child sexual exploitation is in our area** and **measure how effectively agencies are working together to deliver our co-ordinated approach** to offer early help and support to children and young people who may be affected by child sexual exploitation.

Strategic Priority	Outcome	Actions to be progressed	Impact on children, young people and families	Lead Agency/ Officer	By when
<p style="text-align: center;">Prevention of abuse and early intervention with specific measures for dealing with particularly vulnerable children</p>	<p>The risk that children and young people are exploited is reduced through a focus on early identification and prevention for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  strategic leaders  agencies 	<p>Head of Service meets with the Chief Officers group quarterly</p> <p>Planned briefings to strategic leaders, elected members and corporate parents is being developed</p> <p>CSE Action Plan is shared and evaluated by the ICPC</p> <p>All agencies audit training to see who has attended and are they the right people in their service</p> <p>All agencies annually review staff knowledge of</p>	<p>Strategic leaders are confident about the scale of CSE concerns in their area and are aware of the numbers who go missing and who are the most vulnerable children/young people.</p> <p>Individual agencies have access to who has attended</p>		

	<p>.....</p> <p> managers,</p>	<p>the CSE referral pathway</p> <p>Individual agencies evaluate the impact of this through their protocol:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • know LAC children who go missing • know children missing from school and use their chronology to assess trends • patterns of attendance at A and E and other primary health services <p>.....</p> <p>Vulnerable Young Person's (VYP) Group:</p> <p>6 monthly review of the impact of the decision - making of this group to reduce risk to the child and young person</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • source of referral and pathway • information shared • quality of the child's plan and contingency plans 	<p>CSE awareness training</p> <p>Individual agencies' staff are aware that CSE is child protection and know the referral pathway</p> <p>All agencies collate missing person data and reviews this information quarterly</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Inverclyde's Strategic CSE Operational Group knows the prevalence of child/young people who may be at risk from CSE in their local area and how effectively agencies are responding</p> <p>Evidence that information collated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Vulnerable Young Person's Group • quality assurance 		
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	<p>.....</p> <p> practitioners,</p>	<p>Operational services managers sign off Wellbeing Assessments</p> <p>.....</p> <p>Frontline practitioners have attended CSE awareness training</p> <p>line managers review supervision agreements to know that the dual CP and GIRFEC role in CSE is understood by their teams: children and young people are engaged with and supported, while maintaining a proactive investigation and disruption/prosecution</p> <p>Team meetings ensure practitioners are aware of the CSE referral pathway and the levels of service provision</p> <p>Review the Shared</p>	<p>improves future operational and strategic activity</p> <p>.....</p> <p>practitioners are confident and competent in their role to identify, assess, support and safeguard children and young people</p>		
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		Chronology, Wellbeing Assessments and Child's Plan to evidence the dual role of those vulnerable to CSE			
	<p>.....</p> <p> children, young person</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>Safer Choices is delivered through Inverclyde's partnership with Barnardo's with S2</p> <p>Wasted Campaign engaged S2 pupils in Inverclyde</p> <p>Plans are in place to support children and young people key transition points and key</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>Children, young people, families and communities have awareness of CSE through schools and the Scottish Governments national campaign</p> <p>Inverclyde's Raising Attainment strategy identifies and supports the wellbeing of children and young people</p>		
	<p> their families</p> <p> communities</p>	<p>ICPC has collated data from both campaigns</p>	<p>ICPC has a programme of awareness raising for parents/carers</p>		

<p style="text-align: center;">Intervention and recovery that supports children and young people affected by CSE</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>Children and young people at risk of or experiencing CSE and their families receive appropriate and high quality support</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>All children have return interviews</p> <p>Barnardo's review police concerns reports in Inverclyde for trends - location</p> <p>Review Wellbeing Assessments and Child's Plans of young people referred through VYP's pathway</p>	<p>.....</p> <p>Information is collated and used to inform and improve future operational and strategic activity</p> <p>Needs are identified and risks are managed and reviewed</p>		
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<p style="text-align: center;">Disruption and prosecution of offenders through legislation</p>	<p>Perpetrators are identified early and their activities disrupted</p>	<p>Data analysis of risk assessed through the VYP Group</p> <p>No. of offender profiles created</p> <p>No. of criminal investigations</p> <p>No. of warrants executed</p> <p>No. of criminal and court proceedings</p> <p>CEOP data</p> <p>Types of legislation used</p>	<p>K Division of Police Scotland strategic framework for tackling CSE is: CARE (Concern, Analysis, Risk, Enquiry). The strategy will be underpinned by Police Scotland's strategic themes of Victim, Offender, Location.</p>		
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Key materials:

CSE self-evaluation for CPC

Inverclyde's VYP pathway

Barnardo's (2014) Guidance on Child Sexual Exploitation - A Practitioner's Resource Pack

Barnardo's Spot the Signs – children/young people/parents and professionals

Police Scotland – K Division strategic framework for tackling child sexual exploitation: CARE and Investigators Guide

Scottish Government (2014) National guidance for child protection in Scotland

Scottish Government (2016) National Action Plan to Prevent and Tackle CSE